GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1302
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2008
FUEL CELL TECHNOLOGY
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that fuel cell technology, which converts chemical energy to electricity with the only byproduct being pure water, is being used world over as a clean and cheap solution;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government on using this fuel cell technology in the country;

(c) whether there is any research being done in the country on this technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY(SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. The Government is aware that fuel cells are being developed world over as a clean and efficient technology for automobiles and power generation. However, the fuel cell technology is presently costly and not commercially viable.

(c)&(d): The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the Ministry of Science and Technology have been supporting research, development and demonstration projects for development of different types of fuel cells, including the related materials, components, sub-systems and systems for automotive and power generation applications. Fuel Cell Technology is being developed in the country by various organizations i.e. academic institutions;laboratories of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO); other Government supported research centers; public & private industry and non-governmental organizations.